

C. 4/C. 288
Address
Nagasaki,
Japan

Off Woomung, China
Oct. 26th 1901

UNITED STATES BATTLESHIP KENTUCKY.

My dear Clark -

It was with great pleasure that I found my "load upon the water" came back so richly rewarded. Admiral Remy told me of your very kind inquiries about me but could tell me very little of you personally so I sent my advance guard in the shape of a book and now find you by this mail a little effort of mine in the shape of a brief war code and an answer to your letter to resume a correspondence which never should have ceased.

I have not been as fortunate as you for it has been many years almost dating back to my last visit to Hobart that I have heard of you

And you can imagine the pleasure
that followed when I heard of you
and your success in life and best
of all that you still remembered me
as a past and present friend.

But I must hear more of you
and yours and I hope in your
answer to this that you will
tell me about your personal sur-
roundings - your family and your
wife. I congratulate you upon
your elevation to the bench
and I trust that now Australia
has become a United Common-
wealth that your career will
be transferred to the wider sphere
therein created.

This will, in all probability, be
my last cruise as Commanding
Officer and possibly my last sea

service afloat so that I hope
upon your next visit to America
~~you~~ will meet and our families
learn to know each other. My
Communal feeling - always string-
reels at the wandering life I have
led and the constant uprooting
that has followed, but a wondrous
years ought to bring me the
compensation of a life sufficiently
stationary to have my friends
about me or a free movement
that will enable me to see them
where I ease. The mail that
brought your letter brought me
from another widely separated
friend Admiral W.H. Henderson
of your Navy who married
years ago in Sydney, but who
has been enabled by a lucky
chance to visit me in Newport.

Of the old Swatacas I have seen less
of Stevenson and Henshaw than any
of the others, - Schroeder is Governor
of Guam, Pillsbury with whom I
am more particularly intimate
is about going to sea, while
Hunker and Little as great friends
as ever are both in Newport where
I have been serving of late for
a short time as President of the
Naval War College, a sort of general
staff school -

We left Manila the latter
part of August for the north
and at present there seems
no immediate prospect of return-
ing. My ship has become the
flag ship of the junior Squadron
Commander - Rear Admiral Kempff
so it is more than ever difficult
to follow its movements. Just now

We are bound for Hong Kong and expect
after a short stay to go to Japan but

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All is uncertain. Manila in December,
January & February presents its best
season to the world but I cannot
say that we will share it this
year. There is fairly good hotel
accommodation in Manila at the
Mental and it would be perfectly
safe for you to go there in the
months named with your daughter
and if I should be ordered there
for the winter you will find me
calling or writing for you to come -
I cannot say that Manila is
very interesting except somewhat as
to its social life and the novel
(to us) Colonial experiment we are
dealing with. We have some ex-
cellent men in charge there but

they have a large problem to solve
American and Anglo-Saxon institu-
tions fit the Malays who pre-
dominate there. We cannot make
them Anglo-Saxons, what they
will make of our people, I can
only wonder. My service at the
War College and the Sphere there
assigned me has made me
somewhat of a voice unopposed
rather than a political one,
but whatever I am I must
say I frankly regret our acqui-
sition of the Philippines, I
would have been happy to have
exchanged them for your West
Indian Islands, and then we
would have been sure of ourselves

+ continuations, with similar interests
and Complementary markets. Is it
destiny that we have done other
wise? It certainly was not pre-
meditation -

I should like to hear from
you concerning the new Common
wealth. I am sure you feel
that it is a long step in the
right direction, perhaps it is
sufficiently long and sufficiently
right - I am sure it is
wanting in either quality the
steady efforts of Australians will
make it so - We were among
the possible steps to have gone to
Australia and as you may suppose
it would have been a particularly
happy opportunity if we could

have gone -

Your photograph and pamphlet have not as yet been received but they will I am sure soon appear being almost always out here preceded by letters -

And now let me relate into the family of advancing years and tell you something of myself and my family. I was as you may recollect married twice. My daughter by my first wife was married somewhat over a year ago to a young lieutenant in the Navy and I am now what they call - a grandfather - a young one of course - and a very small granddaughter - but never the less the fact - as a fact - remains

undisputed. I have two other children - the elder - my only boy is at Haward
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Army and graduates next June at the age of twenty and enters the following autumn the Law School for we want him to follow your profession rather than mine. My third child and second daughter is now past thirteen and is promising both as to her books and her tastes -

My wife has had added to her many other duties, the care of an invalid mother who died about 6 years ago, so when I was ordered to sea about eight months ago we broke up housekeeping and she is living in apartments in New York City - where I should find her in the early part of 1903. The Education

And care of the children have prevented her from joining me in any of my cruises and still keeps her at home, so I suspect that my travelling days may not be entirely over when my active service comes to a close -

I wish I could tell you my whereabouts but I have not any with me, I must however take the first good opportunity I have some letter for you and other friends -

I am very sorry to hear of Mr. Wacker's death. I always remember with great pleasure his gentle unassuming country. I suppose some of the Dobsons must still be in Tasmania as well as Melbourne. Mr. Webster is still

borne upon one Circular list. The
Bishops and the Governors must
change and I presume the
Ministry would carry no familiar
name to me upon its lists, but
what role does Tasmania play
in the New Commonwealth. Is
she a semi-State or a province
like those of Canada - How
much I would like again to
see Hobart and revive those
recollections which are among
the pleasantest of my life. If
any of the Dobsons, Chapmans &
Thirlands are still there & still
remember me, please convey my
warmest regards. Tell me when
next you write about yourself
and your family and friends

For them and for yourself
become my warmest bene-
factress and believe me

Most cordially
Yours

Charles W. Stockton